

Ask the Chief of the Anna Police: A weekly column allowing readers access to useful information about law enforcement issues in the Anna area.

This column is the personal opinion of Kenny Jenks and is based on his 30+ years of policing experience. It is not necessarily the official opinion of the City of Anna or the Anna Police Department and is not legal advice. If you wish to Email, include your name and address in the correspondence. Your information will be edited before sending it to print.

Hello Readers,

I receive between 75-100 Emails each week from persons who would like to converse about the activities of the police in Anna and surrounding areas. I can't respond to or print all of them, but I do read them!

Happy Summer Readers! Do you know where your kids are and what they are doing?

Yippee, the new laws are out, the new laws are out!!! Here are some interesting ones:

**H.B. 1899 – Cell Phone Bans:** this bill: (1) exempts a city from the requirement to post a sign at a school crossing zone regarding the prohibited use of a wireless communication device if: (a) the city prohibits the use of a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle throughout its jurisdiction; (b) the city posts signs at each point at which a highway enters the city stating that an operator is prohibited from using a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle in the city and that the operator is subject to a fine for a violation; and (c) posts the same message as described in (b) on any dynamic message sign operated by the city on a highway in the city; and (2) provides that the affirmative defense that the car was stopped or was a hands-free device is not available to an operator for an offense committed in a school crossing zone in a city that posts signs in compliance with (1), above. (Effective September 1, 2011.) **Right now, Anna has not adopted an ordinance banning cell phone use in the City limits. You still cannot use one in a school zone while that zone is active.**

**S.B. 86 (Nelson/S. Miller) – Traffic Fines:** authorizes a city, whether general law or home-rule, to enter into a contract with the county tax assessor-collector to provide information regarding the nonpayment of traffic fines or the failure to appear in municipal court for traffic offenses, thus authorizing the assessor- collector to refuse to register or re-register the vehicle of the person in question. (Effective immediately). **Pay your tickets or they could result in more, and more, and more fines!!!**

More to come later.

Attention drivers, attention drivers: It is legal to drive on an improved shoulder to allow vehicles travelling faster to pass (Transportation Code 545.058).

**Reminder: Outdoor Storm Sirens Tested (weather permitting)**  
First Wednesday of the month @ 12 noon.

**\*Phone numbers: Dial 911 in an emergency.** To have a police officer sent to you in a non-emergency, call 972-547-5350. During normal business hours, the APD number is 972-924-2848.

If you have a question or comment, please email: [kjenks@annatexas.gov](mailto:kjenks@annatexas.gov)